

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/807,706

Examiner

Ping Lee

Applicant(s)

OHASHI, TOSHIHIKO

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 10/26/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3, 5, 8 and 13-15. They have been renumbered as claims 1, 2, 5, 3, 4 and 6 respectively.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/17/01, 5/9/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Larry Ashery on 11/30/05.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Regarding claim 3, line 10, the phrase "the voice" have been changed to –a voice--.

Regarding claim 3, line 22, the phrase "a voice" have been changed to –the voice--.

Claim 4 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 5, line 2, the phrase "can be" have been replaced with –are--.

Claim 8 has been replaced as the following:--

8. An active noise control (ANC) system comprising:
a source unit for generating regenerative signals;
an ANC unit for processing signals so as to actively cancel noise;
sensors for detecting information on the inside and outside of a vehicle;
a vehicle interior voice discriminating unit for discriminating voice of conversation in the interior of the vehicle;
an amplifier for amplifying the signals processed by said ANC unit;

a reproducing transducer for reproducing the signals amplified by said amplifier;
wherein said sensors include a type for detecting information on factors affecting the acoustic space of the vehicle including the number of passengers and the location thereof, a type for detecting operating conditions of the vehicle, and one of a type for detecting vehicle interior sounds, engine sound, and sounds and vibrations outside of the running vehicle], a type for detecting information on factors affecting the acoustic space of the vehicle such as the number of passengers and the location thereof and a type for detecting operating conditions of the vehicle];

wherein said sensors for detecting the location of passengers are arranged in predetermined positions and the number of sensors are such that generated voice [can be] is located; and,

wherein said sensors for detecting the location of passengers are microphones placed in the vicinity of the heads of passengers.—


3. The amendment for claim 3 provides proper antecedent basis. The amendment for claim 5 corrects the indefinite language. Claim 4, corresponding to Fig. 5, has been cancelled because the specification and the drawings as originally filed fail to provide an enable disclosure on how to actively cancel the noise with the embodiment as illustrated in Fig. 5. The amendment for claim 8 rearranges the phrases regarding the sensors.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-7522.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian C. Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ping Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2644

pwl